



## Lena Candalise

March 13, 1915 - January 19, 2012

We lovingly celebrate the life of Lena Candalise (Saccaro), who peacefully passed to eternal life, January 19, 2012, in the comfort of her own home in Spring Hill, Florida. Lena remained amazingly independent, vital and astute until her last moments with us as she neared her 97th birthday. She is the beloved sister of Bruno (Robert) Saccaro (1923-2018) and Victor Saccaro, loving sister-in-law of Shirley Saccaro (1923-2000) and Jeana Saccaro, adored aunt of Susan Saccaro and Thomas Saccaro, and dear cousin and relative to many family members.

Born on March 13, 1915 in Springfield, Illinois, Lena's entire life was characterized by a remarkable resiliency, keen intelligence, total dedication and gracefulness. The eldest of three children, Lena was the cherished daughter of Cesare Saccaro (1885-1979) and Giovannella (Jeanne) Saccaro (Faoro) (1895-1981), immigrants from Arsie, Italy (a small mountain village in northern Italy). Lena bravely endured both transatlantic and intercontinental perils during childhood. Her younger brother of seven years, Bruno (Robert) was born in Arsie. Then her brother, Victor (12 years younger), was born in Windsor, Ontario after the family left Italy under threatening fascist persecutions. During this era of the Great Depression, Lena attended and graduated from Kennedy Collegiate, also earning a teaching certificate. Her brother, Victor, continues to recall a day of great surprise when, at Prince Edward Elementary School, he looked up and saw Lena was his substitute

teacher!

Lena married John Candalise (1915-1985), a World War II combat veteran and foreman at Ford Motor Company. Married for over 43 years, Lena devotedly served her husband for almost 30 years after John experienced a life-threatening, disabling heart attack early in his career. Lena also provided perpetual care for her father-in-law, Gabriel Candalise, in their home and for her parents nearby in Dearborn, Michigan. Unassuming and diligent, Lena received awards for her loyal service to Montgomery Ward for over 25 years, where she was promoted to Manager of Cashier's Office.

Warmly admired for her unquestionable integrity and unwavering fidelity, Lena quietly reflected her Catholic faith in all areas of her life. She also brought a delicate beauty and delightful humor, and was a gracious hostess. Lena is eternally beloved by her family and many lifelong friends. Special gratitude is extended to Regina Favaro, Lena's personal caregiver, for Regina's many years of loving service and support.

Memorial contributions to the Monastery of St. Therese, 35750 Moravian Dr., Clinton Township, MI 48035 are appreciated.

# Cemetery Details

## Holy Sepulchre Cemetery

25800 W. 10 Mile Road  
10 Mile Road @ Beech Road  
Southfield, MI 48033

# Previous Events

## Memorial Gathering

OCT **15**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Assumption Grotto Catholic Church  
13770 Gratiot Avenue  
Detroit, MI 48205

## Holy Rosary

OCT **15**. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Assumption Grotto Catholic Church  
13770 Gratiot Avenue  
Detroit, MI 48205

## Requiem Mass

OCT **15**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Assumption Grotto Catholic Church  
13770 Gratiot Avenue  
Detroit, MI 48205

## Inurnment

---

OCT **15**. 12:30 PM (ET)

Holy Sepulchre Cemetery  
25800 W. 10 Mile Road  
Southfield, MI 48033

# Tribute Wall

SF

“ I miss Auntie Lena. She had an incandescent wit, combined with personal warmth and elegant manners. I miss all of you so terribly and very much need you around me. The years pass so quickly that when someone dies, you find yourself wondering where the time went. I wish I could catch up with you all. I have experienced the terrible loss of my Mother and it would be wonderful if you all would jump in to fill this vacuum. Shelley Faoro

---

**Shelley Faoro** - February 05, 2025 at 09:19 PM

RF

“ I have fond memories of Lee and John when they came to visit at my mom and dad's house. Rest in Peace Robert Faoro

---

**Robert Faoro** - October 16, 2022 at 01:57 PM

LZ

“ What I remember most of my cousin Lena is her kindness, her warmth, her bubbly personality. We join the family in celebrating her life and she will be forever remembered with gratitude and love. Lidia, Domenic and Family

---

**Lidia Zuccato** - October 13, 2022 at 06:36 PM